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REMARKS

The application has been amended. Claims 1, 4, 11 and 14 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 12, and 13 have been canceled and new claims 18-21 are submitted herewith. Authorization for payment of additional claim fees is included herewith. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 3-4 and 13-15 are objected to but would be allowable if written in independent form. This determination is gratefully acknowledged.

Claim 1 has been amended to substantially include the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Claim 11 has been rewritten to substantially include the limitations of claims 12 and 13. Given the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 11, as well as the claims which depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Claims of the application have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,847,282 to Collura et al. ("Collura") As it relates to new claims 18-21 presented herewith, this determination is respectfully traversed.

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New claim 18 recites a hanger for supporting an elongate article. The hanger includes an elongate substrate having a pair of opposed extents. A pair of lateral fold lines are positioned inward of said end extents. A central fold line is positioned between said lateral fold lines and defines interior extents between each of the lateral fold lines and the central fold line. The substrate is foldable about the central fold line to place the interior extents in mutual contact. The substrate is further foldable about the lateral fold lines to place the end extents in mutual contact, with the interior extents positioned therebetween. This arrangement is clearly shown in the present application in Figure 4 where extents 24 and 26 are placed in mutual contact. Thereafter, the end extents 20 and 22 are brought upwardly to enclose the folded inner extents.

Turning now to Collura, the reference is directed to an open display carton for supporting a tube. A flat blank is shown in Figure 1. The blank is folded ultimately to the configuration shown in Figure 3. An inner portion 30 forming abutment areas is brought out of the plane of the flat blank by folding about fold lines 28. However, as it relates to claim 18, Collura fails to show a substrate being foldable about a fold line to place the interior extents in mutual contact. Note that in the final arrangement shown in Figures 4 and 5, abutment areas 26 and 30 are not brought in mutual contact. As such, Collura cannot be anticipatory of new claims 18-21.

Furthermore, Collura is designed to support, in upright fashion, a tube. By its very definition, Collura is not designed to be a flat folded device. Claim 18 clearly recites a substrate

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being foldable about a central fold line to place interior extents in mutual contact and the substrate being foldable about lateral fold lines to place the end extent in mutual contact with the interior extents positioned therebetween. This arrangement is not taught or suggested by the Collura device which requires its element to have a fixed base to support the tube in a standing display fashion.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 18-21 define patentably over Collura.

Claim 1 of the present invention stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,658,175 to Vrana. As it relates to new claims 18-21, this determination is respectfully traversed.

The Vrana reference provides a one-piece display card which works in a manner substantially different from that of the present invention. Vrana provides an elongate substrate wherein the ends are folded inwardly to support the upper and lower extents of a scissor. Nowhere in Vrana is there any disclosure of a central fold line positioned between lateral fold lines which defines interior extents wherein folding at the central fold line places the interior extents in mutual contact. Further, there is no disclosure whatsoever in Vrana of folding the

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substrates so as to place the ends of the substrate in mutual contact. As such, Vrana is not anticipatory of new claims 18-21.

Furthermore, since Vrana fails to teach or suggest the hanger disclosed and claimed herein, the claims are believed to be patentably distinct thereover.

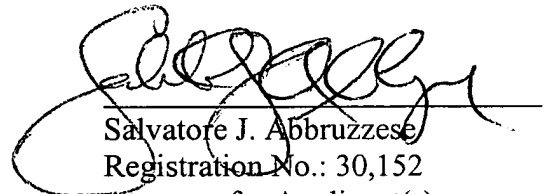
Accordingly, for the reasons set forth hereinabove, the application, including claims 1, 4-11 and 14-21, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 20-0776. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

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Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response, the undersigned would be pleased to address them by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,



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